

of injustices and inequities. I hope we will stand, as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. stood, for what is right, and just for all.

ULTIMATE TEST OF A MORAL SOCIETY

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 15, 2008

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, according to GAO we are \$5.3 trillion deep in publicly held debt, and have an estimated \$54.3 trillion in unfunded promised benefits if we don't change our current course.

The Social Security and Medicare Trustees reports recently issued only reinforce the dire condition of our fiscal health.

This is a fundamental issue for our country's economic future. It's also a generational issue.

Pete Peterson's commentary in Newsweek last week ends by quoting Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the German pastor who was instrumental in the resistance movement against Nazism.

He said, "The ultimate test of a moral society is the kind of world it leaves to its children."

I can't help but wonder what sort of future today's partisan Washington is leaving generations to come. If we can come together—both sides of the aisle—we can ensure that our children and grandchildren have all the opportunity you and I have had.

The bipartisan Cooper-Wolf SAFE Commission could give this country a chance to get back on track—to rein in entitlement spending. If there are other bipartisan ideas on how to address this issue, we should talk about those too.

Doing nothing is simply not an option. I urge Congressional leadership and Treasury Secretary Paulson to embrace the Cooper-Wolf legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 15, 2008

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 183, 184, and 185 I was not present because I was returning from a field hearing. Had I been present I would have voted: "yes" on rollcall 183—H. Res. 886, "yes" on rollcall 184—H. Res. 994, and "yes" on rollcall 185—H.R. 3548.

TRIBUTE TO DONALD DILLMAN

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 15, 2008

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Don Dillman's remarkable life of selfless service. Inspired by his strong Christian faith, he subordinated his personal struggle with diabetes to his singular focus on the important volunteer work he did to improve the community of Hope, Indiana. His admirable

courage in the face of adversity is something special that deserves honoring today on the floor of the people's House.

Donald W. Dillman was born in Columbus, Indiana on March 8, 1940, to Shirley "Bud" and Jessie Cecil Anderson Dillman. He was a graduate of Hope High School, Class of 1957. On June 24, 1962, he married Rena Blake, with whom he shared and celebrated forty-five years of marriage.

The "unofficial mayor" of Hope, Don helped organize countless civic projects and community initiatives over the years ranging from new playground equipment for the town square to launching the Hope Chamber of Commerce. He even stepped in as an anonymous reporter covering Hope Town Council meetings for the Hope Star Journal.

Don worked for decades to improve the community, serving in important leadership positions. He served as President of Heritage of Hope for over thirty-five years. He was a founder and board member of the Hawcreek-Flatrock Endowment Fund, applying his fundraising prowess to help it grow to over \$225,000. Since the early 1970s, Don led the Hope Heritage Days festival, which draws thousands to the town each fall.

Don was not just bold about fundraising for the community; he was also bold about his faith. He served as a deacon at the First Baptist Church of Hope for many years. But most of all his faith shone through his commitment to the community of Hope, Indiana despite his own physical illnesses.

Sadly, Don has passed away, but he leaves a strong legacy of personal faith and selfless service that serve as a powerful example to all who knew him. I offer my sincere condolences to his wife Rena, their sons Jon and Darrell, and two grandchildren James and Jessica.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL HORMONE DISRUPTION ACT AND THE WOMEN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND DISEASE PREVENTION ACT

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 15, 2008

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, today I'm proud to introduce the Environmental Hormone Disruption Act and the Women's Environmental Health and Disease Prevention Act.

Consider for a moment that a woman's lifetime risk of breast cancer is 1 in 7 today, compared to 1 in 22 in the 1940s—over half of the cases are unexplained. And, over the last 30 years, the U.S. has seen a steep rise in the occurrence of childhood cancers, testicular cancer, juvenile diabetes, attention deficit disorder, learning disabilities, thyroid disorders, cognitive impairment, and autoimmune disorders. Autism cases alone rose 210 percent between 1987 and 1998.

About 100,000 chemicals are registered for use in the United States. However, 90 percent of these have never been fully tested for their impact on human health. Scientists have found that exposure to these synthetic chemicals disrupts hormone function and contributes to increased incidences of diseases. We already know the tragic impact that diethylstilbestrol, or DES, has had on the daughters of women who took this anti-miscarriage drug prescribed until 1971.

Furthermore, a recent article in the Boston Globe highlighted the possible link between obesity and exposure to bisphenol A (BPA), an estrogen-like compound found in many common plastic objects.

While the evidence is mounting that there is an association between these chemicals and hormone disruption, research remains limited, particularly on the impact on women and on how long-term, low-dose exposure to environmental pollutants impacts children at critical stages of development.

A couple years ago, I participated in a study conducted by the Environmental Working Group to find out what toxic substances I, in particular, and Americans in general, have been exposed to throughout our lives. My stunning test results showed literally hundreds of chemicals pumping through my vital organs every day. These chemicals include PCBs that were banned decades ago, as well as chemicals like Teflon that are currently under Federal investigation.

The study also tested 10 newborn babies and found that on average, each one had some 200 chemicals in their blood at the time of birth. The fact that we have children coming into this world already polluted and at the same time, do not know what the effects of that pollution will be on their mental and physical development, is both bad policy and immoral. We must test chemicals before they go onto the market, not after they get into our bloodstreams.

For several years, I have called on Congress to enact legislation that would allow NIH to expand its research on the impact of these chemical pollutants on the health of women and children.

Once again, I am introducing two important bills that I hope will advance this research—the Environmental Hormone Disruption Act and the Women's Environmental Health and Disease Prevention Act. The Environmental Hormone Disruption Act authorizes the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) to conduct a comprehensive program to research and educate the public on the health effects of hormone-disrupting chemicals. The Women's Environmental Health and Disease Prevention Act authorizes the NIEHS to establish multidisciplinary research centers to investigate how environmental factors may be related to women's health and disease prevention.

Increased investments in research now could prevent and treat a broad range of diseases and disorders in future generations. I urge my colleagues to support these bills today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 15, 2008

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained from voting on April 10, 2008. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on the following rollcall votes: rollcall No. 178, rollcall No. 179, rollcall 180, rollcall 181.

I would have noted "nay" on the following rollcall vote: rollcall No. 182.